THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 13th August 1954.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Short notice questions.

Retrenchment of workers in the Commonwealth Textile Factory, Kozhikode.

* 1326-A *Q*.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the management of the Commonwealth Textile Factory, Kozhikode, have decided to retrench 140 workers from the factory in violation of provisions of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act and Factories Act ;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have made any efforts at conciliation in the matter and with what result?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The management of the Commonwealth Textile Factory, Kozhikode, propose to retrench certain number of workers, but there is no information whether they are proposing to do it in violation of the provisions of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act and Factories Act.

" (*b*) The Labour Officer has already commenced conciliation in the matter and it is pending with him."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware that the management wanted to retrench the workers in order to cut their wages, refuse bonus to them and to treat them as casual workers so that they might not get any benefit according to the laws prevalent? If so, will the Government be pleased to take action and see that this kind of retrenchment is stopped? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" These complaints are before the Labour Officer who is trying conciliation. The Government will take suitable action on receipt of a report from him."

Accident at the Vincent Industrials, Kozhikode.

* 1326-B *Q*.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that five workers of the St. Vincent Industrials, Kozhikode, received severe injuries and burns on 28th July 1954 while on duty;